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HOUSE MEMORIAL 5

48TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2008

INTRODUCED BY

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A MEMORIAL

DECLARING JANUARY 31, 2008 AS "FARM WORKERS' DAY" AT THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WHEREAS, agriculture's contribution to New Mexico's
heritage and economic health is well known; and

WHEREAS, in 2005 the farm and ranch community had product
sales totaling two billion six hundred million dollars
(\$2,600,000,000); and

WHEREAS, major farm production in New Mexico includes
cattle, sheep and wool, dairies and dairy products, alfalfa and
other hays, wheat, sorghum, cotton, chile, pecans, lettuce,
corn and onions; and

WHEREAS, the production of many of these products would
not be possible without the approximately twelve thousand farm
and ranch workers in New Mexico; and

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1 WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers in New Mexico have been
2 tending crops and livestock for more than ninety years, when
3 large-scale agriculture began in this state; and

4 WHEREAS, during this time, farm and ranch workers have
5 been the backbone of much of the farming and ranching industry;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, farm and ranch workers labor in one of the most
8 dangerous occupations in the nation, and each year one hundred
9 twenty thousand agricultural workers throughout the country
10 suffer disabling injuries from work-related accidents; and

11 WHEREAS, many farm and ranch workers receive little
12 recognition for their work; and

13 WHEREAS, all New Mexicans benefit from the labor of farm
14 and ranch workers;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
16 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that January 31,
17 2008 be declared "Farm Workers' Day" at the house of
18 representatives to honor the hardworking people whose role in
19 New Mexico's economy is of great importance to all residents of
20 the state.